



*House of Assembly  
Nova Scotia*

### **Halifax**

PC Caucus  
1003-1660 Hollis St  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 1V7  
Tel: 902-424-2731  
Fax: 902-424-7484

### **Constituency**

5 Ratchford St  
Amherst, NS  
B4H 1X2  
Tel: 902-661-2288  
Fax: 902-661-0114



**Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin**  
**MLA Cumberland North**

### **Halifax**

1600, rue Hollis, suite 1003  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 1V7  
Tel: 902-424-2731  
Fax: 902-4247484

### **Circonscription**

5 rue, Ratchford,  
Amherst, NS  
B4H 1X2  
Tel: 902-661-2288  
Fax: 902-661-0114

[mla@esmithmccrossinmla.com](mailto:mla@esmithmccrossinmla.com)  
<http://esmithmccrossinmla.com>

May 8, 2020

Premier Stephen McNeil  
Office of the Premier  
1700 Granville Street  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 1X5

Premier Blaine Higgs  
Office of the Premier  
P. O. Box 6000  
Fredericton, NB  
E3B 5H1

Premier Dennis King  
Office of the Premier  
95-105 Rochford Street-5th Floor  
Charlottetown, PE  
C1A 7N8

Dear Premier McNeil; Premier Higgs and Premier King:

The COVID-19 coronavirus is deadly and my constituents of Cumberland North, Nova Scotia are grateful for your leadership during this global pandemic. We are truly in unprecedented times and we are all learning day to day as science and research unveils news data and information about the virus.

I am the elected representative of the people in Cumberland North (in Northern NS, bordering NB and PEI) and this letter is sent on behalf of my constituents.

On Monday, May 4th we held a virtual business meeting with 33 business owners to discuss the re-opening of our economy. Many of the businesses have a large customer base within a 30 minute radius but in another province.

I can relay that people are most concerned with public health & safety. The strict public health measures are being taken very seriously and thankfully, thus far; we are without any known positive cases of COVID-19 in Cumberland.

Please see attached the letter from the Amherst and Area Chamber of Commerce (which has members from Sackville, NB) and the Cumberland Business Connector which is our local Regional Enterprise Network.

I am requesting that you consider the requests they have made on behalf of businesses owners.



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<http://esmithmccrossinmla.com>

During the meeting two specific recommendations were made of me to communicate to government including:

- Create an Economic Maritime Taskforce for COVID-19
- Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island work together and consider a 'bubble trade zone' to include Cumberland County as we have had no known positive Covid19 cases.

Cumberland, Nova Scotia shares longstanding economic, family, and cultural ties with Sackville and other New Brunswick border communities as well as with Prince Edward Island. We are proud of our management of the pandemic having no positive cases and look forward to safely re-opening our ties, possibly within a bubble zone with our neighbours.

We must keep people safe as we explore ideas to re-open our economy during this global pandemic.

Thank you for considering my requests on behalf of businesses and citizens of Cumberland North, Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Smith-McCrossin